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**Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative**

**Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine: draft resolution**

## Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/111 of 9 December 2011, by which it granted observer status to the Central European Initiative,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 67/7 of 19 November 2012, 69/8 of 11 November 2014 and 71/13 of 21 November 2016, in which it invited the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Initiative in order to continue joint activities for the achievement of common objectives,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

*Appreciating* the active involvement of the Initiative in establishing cooperation with the United Nations system and relevant international and regional organizations, aimed at the furthering of political and socioeconomic development by covering all its relevant dimensions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 71/13,[1]

1. *Welcomes* the important role consistently played by the Central European Initiative as a promoter of political dialogue and as a flexible and pragmatic platform for regional cooperation, thus supporting peace, stability, security and the economic

[1] See A/73/328-S/2018/592, sect. II.



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progress of its member States, including through the implementation of tangible projects and programmes in priority fields;

2. *Appreciates* the Central European Initiative Plan of Action 2018–2020, adopted at the Central European Initiative summit held in Minsk in December 2017 during the presidency of Belarus, aimed at promoting the connectivity and valorizing the diversity in the region;

3. *Recognizes* the commitment of the Initiative to contribute to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[2]

4. *Acknowledges*, in this context, that the Central European Initiative Plan of Action 2018–2020 was elaborated in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and thus bears in mind that interconnectivity in sustainable development can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

5. *Values* the activities of the Initiative aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such priority fields as good governance, including migration, digitalization and anti-corruption; economic growth, including transport, research and innovation, the bioeconomy and blue growth, and sustainable development and entrepreneurship; environmental protection, including climate change, energy, in particular renewable energy and energy efficiency, and biodiversity; intercultural cooperation, including social integration; media freedom; and scientific cooperation and education, including lifelong learning;

6. *Welcomes* the financing of projects through the Central European Initiative Trust Fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, entirely financed by Italy, which provides mainly grant-type assistance for specific components of technical cooperation projects, linked to large operations of the Bank in member States of the Central European Initiative that are not members of the European Union;

7. *Also welcomes* the financing of small-scale multilateral projects in the priority fields by the Central European Initiative Cooperation Fund, to which all member States contribute, and of projects related to capacity-building and the sharing of good practices with member States of the Central European Initiative that are not members of the European Union through the Know-how Exchange Programme, financed by Italy and Poland;

8. *Appreciates* the vigorous efforts of the Initiative to support, elaborate and realize joint regional projects in strategic areas in cooperation with other important regional and international players;

9. *Acknowledges*, in this context, the fruitful cooperation between the Initiative and the European Union, as one of the main co-funders of such projects, and supports the efforts of the Initiative to take concrete steps to establish other mutually beneficial partnerships with the European Union;

10. *Also acknowledges* the efforts undertaken by the Initiative in intensifying its cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe by joining forces in both financing and implementing projects addressing relevant issues, and in this regard welcomes the initiatives undertaken in cooperation with that Organization, under the Chairmanship-in-Office of Italy, which are focused on youth, education and human capital development;

[2] Resolution 70/1.

11. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Initiative and other regional organizations and initiatives;

12. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Initiative to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with the aim of achieving mutual participation in events and meetings of common interest and developing practical and results-oriented joint projects, in particular with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the fields of culture and science and with the Economic Commission for Europe in the field of energy;

13. *Also welcomes* the cooperation established between the Initiative and the International Organization for Migration through the memorandum of understanding signed on 13 December 2016;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify the exchange with the Initiative in order to continue the fruitful cooperation and to facilitate coordination between the secretariats;

15. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Initiative through common action aimed at achieving the shared goals;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative".